Master Plan for development of Tourism in Assam

3213. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Master Plan for Assam for development of tourism has been prepared;

(b) how far it is in progress;

(c) whether there is any perspective plan drawn up by the department of tourism for development of tourism in remote and hilly areas of North-East States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) and (b) A study to assess the Tourism Potential of Assam has been undertaken to prepare a strategic plan for the development of tourism in the state. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to implement the plan over a period of time with the assistance of the Union Government and the private sector.

(c) and (d) The Task Force constituted by the Department of Tourism for studying the issue relating to tourism development in the North-Eastern States and to draw up specific schemes and projects for the same submitted its report in April 1997. The Task Force has recommended the development of sustainable forms of tourism like ecotourism and adventure tourism in specific circuits and destinations in the region to attract high class domestic tourists and international tourists. The action plan involves removal of entry restrictions, improvement of infrastructural facilities and expansion of tourist facilities. Based on the report of the Task Force, the Union Ministry of Tourism provided financial assistance to the State Governments in the region during 1997-98 for the implementation of several tourism projects.

12.00 NOON.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

II. Assessment Report (1996-97) on the Programme on Hindi and its implementation.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, I lay on the Table—

I. (i) A copy in (English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification G.S.R. No. 141(E), dated the 19th March, 1998, publishing the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 1998, under sub-section (4) of section 18 of the Citizenship Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT541/98]

(ii) A copy in (English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification G.S.R. No. 272(E), dated the 26th March, 1998, publishing the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 1998, under sub-section (4) of section 18 of the Citizenship Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT541/98]

(iii) A copy each (English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs, under sub-section (3) of section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992:—

(i) GSR 286(E) dated May 30, 1998 publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (Medical Officers Cadre) Amendment Rules, 1998.

(ii) GSR 299(E) dated August, 2, 1997 publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (Medical Officers Cadre) Rules, 1997. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT1041/98]

(iv) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs, under sub-section (3) of section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968:—

(i) GSR 273(E), dated May 27, 1998 publishing the Border Security Force